

Remarks

This paper is submitted in response to the Office Action dated March 7, 2006, within the five-month period for response wherein claims 62-99 were examined. The claims were amended in accordance with the amendments above. The amendments to the claims are being made to clarify the invention and to focus the claims on those aspects of the invention which are a commercial priority to the assignee. All of the amendments are fully supported by the specification, claims, and figures as originally filed. No new matter is believed or intended to be involved.

In the subject Office Action, all pending claims 62-99 were rejected on the ground of non-statutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-11 of U.S. Patent No. 5,185,667. Applicants respectfully submit a terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321(c) which is being filed concurrently with this response. Applicants respectfully request that the nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting rejection be withdrawn.

Applicant appreciates the courtesies extended during the telephonic interview with the Examiner on 07/13/2006. The claims were amended as discussed in the interview. Applicant appreciates the Examiner's indication during the interview that the present amendments would overcome the rejections in the pending Office Action. The Applicant acknowledges that the Examiner reserved the right to update his search.

To the extent that the amendments constitute a narrowing of the claims, such narrowing of the claims should not be construed as an admission of the merits of the prior rejections. Indeed, Applicant traverses the rejections and preserves all rights and arguments.

Conclusion

Based on the foregoing, all pending claims are in a condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and an early notice of allowance.

No fees are due for the claims as the same number (38 claims, 6 independent) were filed and paid for in the October 11, 2005 Amendment and Response. A check in the amount of \$450 is enclosed for payment of the two month extension which Applicant respectfully requests.

Respectfully Submitted,



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The undersigned certifies that this correspondence was deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail and addressed to "Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450" this 18th day of July, 2006.



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